



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 005127.00307

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	Examiner: TBA
Michael Collier et al.	)	
	)	Art Unit: 3727
Serial No.: 10/705,731	)	
	)	
Filed: November 11, 2003	)	
	)	
Title: FLUID-FILLED BLADDER FOR USE WITH STRAP	)	

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

In regard to the above-identified application, we are transmitting herewith the attached:

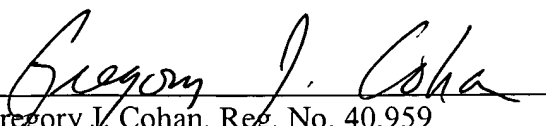
1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. USPTO Form 1449 with forty-one (41) references; and
4. Return Receipt Postcard.

and hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date indicated below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

With respect to additional fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0733. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 21, 2004

  
Gregory J. Cohan, Reg. No. 40,959  
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.  
28 State Street, 28th Floor  
Boston, MA 02109  
(617) 720-9600



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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.99, Applicants hereby submit the enclosed PTO Form 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with the continuing duty of candor as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Austrian Patent No. 181938, European Patent No. 0 094 868, French Patent No. 2.144.464, German Patent No. 32 34 086, and are believed to be relevant to the extent that they are directed to a bladder used in footwear.

French Patent No. 1.195.549, French Patent No. 2.404.413, French Patent No. 2.407.008, French Patent No. 2.483.321, and German Patent No. 92 01 758.4 are believed to be relevant to the extent that they disclose a bladder.

French Patent No. 2.306.402 is believed to be relevant to the extent that it discloses a bladder in a strap.

In the judgment of the undersigned, portions of the listed references may be material to the Examiner's consideration of the presently pending claims. However, the references have not been reviewed in sufficient detail to make any other representation and, in particular, no representation is intended as to the relative importance of any portion of the references. This

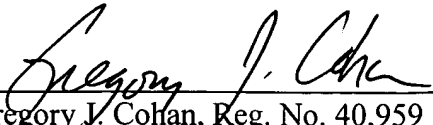
statement is not a representation that the listed references have an effective date early enough to be "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

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FORM PTO-1449 US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>005127.00307</b>	SERIAL NO. <b>10/705,731</b>
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE BY APPLICANT  (Use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT <b>Michael Collier et al.</b>	
	FILING DATE <b>November 11, 2003</b>	GROUP <b>3727</b>

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

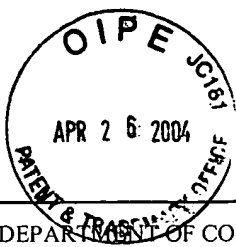
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	Des. 448,170S	09/2001	Ammerman et al.			
	AB	900,867	10/1908	Miller			
	AC	1,069,001	07/1913	Guy			
	AD	1,240,153	09/1917	Olsen			
	AE	1,304,915	05/1919	Spinney			
	AF	1,323,610	12/1919	Price			
	AG	1,444,157	02/1923	Lee			
	AH	1,514,468	11/1924	Schopf			
	AI	1,584,034	05/1926	Klotz			
	AJ	1,625,582	04/1927	Anderson			
	AK	1,625,810	04/1927	Krichbaum			
	AL	1,869,257	07/1932	Hitzler			
	AM	1,916,483	07/1933	Krichbaum			
	AN	1,970,803	08/1934	Johnson			
	AO	2,004,906	06/1935	Simister			
	AP	2,080,469	05/1937	Gilbert			
	AQ	2,086,389	07/1937	Pearson			
	AR	2,269,342	01/1942	Johnson			
	AS	2,365,807	12/1944	Dialynas			

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DATE CONSIDERED: \_\_\_\_\_

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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AT	2,488,382	11/1949	Davis			
	AU	2,546,827	03/1951	Lavinthal			
	AV	2,600,239	06/1952	Gilbert			
	AW	2,645,865	07/1953	Town			
	AX	2,677,906	05/1954	Reed			
	AY	2,703,770	03/1955	Melzer			
	AZ	2,748,401	06/1956	Winstead			
	BA	2,762,134	09/1956	Town			
	BB	3,030,640	04/1962	Gosman			
	BC	3,048,514	08/1962	Bentele et al.			
	BD	3,120,712	02/1964	Menken			
	BE	3,121,430	02/1964	O'Reilly			
	BF	3,204,678	09/1965	Worcester			
	BG	3,251,076	05/1966	Burke			
	BH	3,284,264	11/1966	O'Rourke			
	BI	3,335,045	08/1967	Post			
	BJ	3,366,525	01/1968	Jackson			
	BK	3,469,576	09/1969	Smith et al.			
	BL	3,568,227	03/1971	Dunham			
	BM	3,589,037	06/1971	Gallagher			
	BN	3,608,215	09/1971	Fukuoka			

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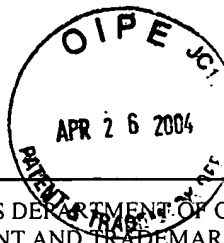
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	BO	3,685,176	08/1972	Rudy			
	BP	3,758,964	09/1973	Nishimura			
	BQ	3,765,422	10/1973	Smith			
	BR	4,017,931	04/1977	Golden			
	BS	4,054,960	10/1977	Pettit et al.			
	BT	4,115,934	09/1978	Hall			
	BU	4,129,951	12/1978	Petrosky			
	BV	4,167,795	09/1979	Lambert, Jr.			
	BW	4,183,156	01/1980	Rudy			
	BX	4,187,620	02/1980	Seiner			
	BY	4,217,705	08/1980	Donzis			
	BZ	4,219,945	09/1980	Rudy			
	CA	4,271,606	06/1981	Rudy			
	CB	4,287,250	09/1981	Rudy			
	CC	4,292,702	10/1981	Phillips			
	CD	4,297,797	11/1981	Meyers			
	CE	4,305,212	12/1981	Coomer			
	CF	4,328,599	05/1982	Mollura			
	CG	4,358,902	11/1982	Cole et al.			
	CH	4,431,003	02/1984	Sztancsik			

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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	CI	4,446,634	05/1984	Johnson et al.			
	CJ	4,458,430	07/1984	Peterson			
	CK	4,483,030	11/1984	Plick et al.			
	CL	4,486,964	12/1984	Rudy			
	CM	4,506,460	03/1985	Rudy			
	CN	4,547,919	10/1985	Wang			
	CO	4,662,087	05/1987	Beuch			
	CP	4,670,995	06/1987	Huang			
	CQ	4,686,130	08/1987	Kon			
	CR	4,722,131	02/1988	Huang			
	CS	4,744,157	05/1988	Dubner			
	CT	4,779,359	10/1988	Famolare, Jr.			
	CU	4,782,602	11/1988	Lakic			
	CV	4,803,029	02/1989	Iversen et al.			
	CW	4,817,304	04/1989	Parker et al.			
	CX	4,823,482	04/1989	Lakic			
	CY	4,845,338	07/1989	Lakic			
	CZ	4,845,861	07/1989	Moumgdgian			
	DA	4,874,640	10/1989	Donzis			
	DB	4,891,855	01/1990	Cheng-Chung			

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	DC	4,906,502	03/1990	Rudy			
	DD	4,912,861	04/1990	Huang			
	DE	4,936,029	06/1990	Rudy			
	DF	4,965,899	10/1990	Sekido et al.			
	DG	4,972,611	11/1990	Swartz et al.			
	DH	4,991,317	02/1991	Lakic			
	DI	4,999,931	03/1991	Vermeulen			
	DJ	4,999,932	03/1991	Grim			
	DK	5,014,449	05/1991	Richard et al.			
	DL	5,022,109	06/1991	Pekar			
	DM	5,025,575	06/1991	Lakic			
	DN	5,038,984	08/1991	Izzo			
	DO	5,042,176	08/1991	Rudy			
	DP	5,044,030	09/1991	Balaton			
	DQ	5,046,267	09/1991	Kilgore et al.			
	DR	5,083,361	01/1992	Rudy			
	DS	5,104,477	04/1992	Williams et al.			
	DT	5,155,927	10/1992	Bates et al.			
	DU	5,158,767	10/1992	Cohen et al.			
	DV	5,179,792	01/1993	Brantingham			

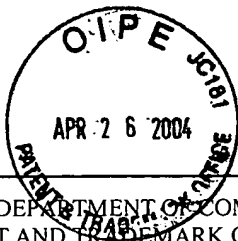
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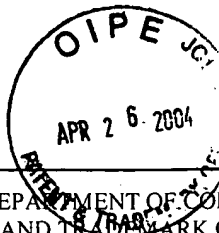
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	DW	5,193,246	03/1993	Huang			
	DX	5,199,191	04/1993	Moumdjian			
	DY	5,224,277	07/1993	Sang Do			
	DZ	5,224,278	07/1993	Jeon			
	EA	5,228,156	07/1993	Wang			
	EB	5,235,715	08/1993	Donzis			
	EC	5,238,231	08/1993	Huang			
	ED	5,245,766	09/1993	Warren			
	EE	5,253,435	10/1993	Auger et al.			
	EF	5,257,470	11/1993	Auger et al.			
	EG	5,294,183	03/1994	Wetter et al.			
	EH	5,297,349	03/1994	Kilgore.			
	EI	5,335,382	08/1994	Huang			
	EJ	5,337,492	08/1994	Anderie et al.			
	EK	5,353,523	10/1994	Kilgore et al.			
	EL	5,355,552	10/1994	Huang			
	EM	5,361,957	11/1994	Weintraub			
	EN	5,367,791	11/1994	Gross et al.			
	EO	5,406,719	04/1995	Potter			
	EP	5,425,184	06/1995	Lyden et al.			

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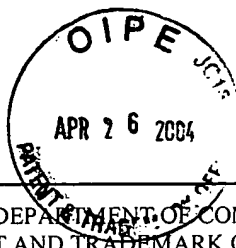
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	EQ	5,435,647	07/1995	Oliver			
	ER	5,543,194	08/1996	Rudy			
	ES	5,558,395	09/1996	Huang			
	ET	5,566,871	10/1996	Weintraub			
	EU	5,572,804	11/1996	Skaja et al.			
	EV	5,593,077	01/1997	Izzo			
	EW	5,595,004	01/1997	Lyden et al.			
	EX	5,625,964	05/1997	Lyden et al.			
	EY	5,669,161	09/1997	Huang			
	EZ	5,686,167	11/1997	Rudy			
	FA	5,713,141	02/1998	Mitchell et al.			
	FB	5,741,568	04/1998	Rudy			
	FC	5,753,061	05/1998	Rudy			
	FD	5,755,001	05/1998	Potter et al.			
	FE	5,771,606	06/1998	Litchfield et al.			
	FF	5,802,739	09/1998	Potter et al.			
	FG	5,830,553	11/1998	Huang			
	FH	5,832,630	11/1998	Potter			
	FI	5,846,063	12/1998	Lakic			
	FJ	5,902,660	05/1999	Huang			

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	FK	5,907,911	06/1999	Huang			
	FL	5,916,664	06/1999	Rudy			
	FM	5,925,306	07/1999	Huang			
	FN	5,937,462	08/1999	Huang			
	FO	5,952,065	09/1999	Mitchell et al.			
	FP	5,976,451	11/1999	Skaja et al.			
	FQ	5,979,078	11/1999	McLaughlin			
	FR	5,987,780	11/1999	Lyden et al.			
	FS	5,993,585	11/1999	Goodwin et al.			
	FT	6,013,340	01/2000	Bonk et al.			
	FU	6,027,683	02/2000	Huang.			
	FV	6,029,962	02/2000	Shorten et al.			
	FW	6,055,746	05/2000	Lyden et al.			
	FX	6,065,150	05/2000	Huang			
	FY	6,098,313	08/2000	Skaja			
	FZ	6,109,495	08/2000	Hernandez			
	GA	6,119,371	09/2000	Goodwin et al.			
	GB	6,127,010	10/2000	Rudy			
	GC	6,128,837	10/2000	Huang			
	GD	6,152,343	11/2000	Shin			
	GE	6,168,060	01/2001	Mayers			

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	GF	6,223,959	05/2001	Chen			
	GG	6,253,466	07/2001	Harmon-Weiss et al.			
	GH	6,374,514	04/2002	Swigart			
	GI	6,471,105	10/2002	Ammerman et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES : NO
	GJ	181938	02/1906	Austria			X
	GK	200963	12/1958	Austria			X
	GL	727,582	02/1966	Canada			
	GM	0 094 868	5/6/1983	EPO			X
	GN	0 898 906 A2	03/1999	EPO			
	GO	0 215 974 A1	09/1985	EPO			
	GP	0 605 485 B1	09/1992	EPO			
	GQ	1,195,549	11/1959	France			X
	GR	1,406,610	11/1965	France			X
	GS	2,144,464	01/1973	France			X
	GT	2,404,413	04/1979	France			X
	GU	2,406,402	10/1978	France			X
	GV	2,407,008	05/1979	France			X
	GW	2,483,321	04/1981	France			X

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	GX	2,614,510	04/1987	France			X
	GY	2,639,537	11/1988	France			*
	GZ	DE 32 34 086	09/1982	Germany			X
	HA	G92 01 758.4	12/1992	Germany			X
	HB	266718	1992	Japan			X
	HC	6-181802	1994	Japan			X
	HD	WO01/50909 A1	07/2001	PCT			
	HE	WO89/10074	11/1989	PCT			
	HF	WO98/17144	04/1998	PCT			
	HG	WO90/10396	09/1990	PCT			
	HH	WO91/11928	08/1991	PCT			
	HI	WO91/11931	08/1991	PCT			
	HJ	WO92/08384	05/1992	PCT			*
	HK	WO95/20332	08/1995	PCT			
	HL	Util. Model 54221	06/1978	ROC			T
	HM	App. 75100322	01/1975	ROC			X
	HN	2,328,604 A	03/1999	UK			
	HO	14,955	08/1893	UK			
	HP	7,441	03/1906	UK			

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FORM PTO-1449 US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE BY APPLICANT  (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>005127.00307</b>	SERIAL NO. <b>10/705,731</b>
	APPLICANT <b>Michael Collier et al.</b>	
	FILING DATE <b>November 11, 2003</b>	GROUP <b>3727</b>

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES : NO
	HQ	233,387	01/1924	UK			
	HR	978,654	12/1964	UK			
	HS	1,128,764	10/1968	UK			

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	HT	Brooks Running Catalog, Fall 1991
	HU	Dyna-Disc Exercises; Lifestyle Sports; <a href="http://lifestylesport.com/dyna-disc.htm">http://lifestylesport.com/dyna-disc.htm</a> ; Date Unknown
	HV	Sports Research Review, NIKE, Inc., January/February 1990
	HW	Three photographs of backpack manufactured by NIKE, Inc. and publicly disclosed in 2001
	HX	U.S. Application No. 10/341,773 filed January 13, 2003

EXAMINER: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE CONSIDERED: \_\_\_\_\_

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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